another communication port (not shown) of meter 10 according to known methods and techniques. The various programmable parameters are stored in tables 30 in system memory, such as memory 22. As contemplated herein, a single programmable parameter stored in memory that is not part of a larger table 30 may be considered as being stored in a table 30 having a single parameter.

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (once amended) A method for creating a secure program history log for a programmable device including a microprocessor, at least one communications port for communicating with the microprocessor and at least one memory device electrically connected to the microprocessor, the memory device including a program history log, said method comprising:

communicating input program parameters to the microprocessor in a programming event;

creating a log entry utilizing the microprocessor and the program parameters; and

writing the log entry into the program history log utilizing the microprocessor.

11. (once amended) A method in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the programmable device is an electronic electricity meter, said step of communicating input program parameters to the microprocessor comprising the step of communicating meter parameters to the microprocessor for determining energy consumption.

12. (once amended) A system for creating a secure program history log for a programmable device comprising:

at least one communications port, said communications port configured to receive inputs comprising program input parameters in a programming event;

a microprocessor configured to receive said program input parameters from said communications port and create a log entry based on said program input parameters; and

at least one memory device electrically connected to said microprocessor and comprising said program history log, said microprocessor further configured to write said log entry into said program history log, thereby protecting said program history log from manipulation via direct communication from said communications port.

16. (once amended) An electronic electricity meter comprising:

a communications port, said communications port configured to receive meter input parameters in a programming event;

a microprocessor configured to receive said meter input parameters from said communications port and determine energy consumption based upon said meter input parameters, said microprocessor further configured to create a program history log entry when meter input parameters are received in the programming event; and

at least one memory device electrically connected to said microprocessor and comprising a program history log, said microprocessor further configured to write said log entry into said program history log.

20. (once amended) An electronic electricity meter comprising:

. a microprocessor configured to determine energy consumption based upon at least one meter input parameter received in a programming event;

at least one memory device electrically connected to said microprocessor and comprising a program history log for recording said programming event; and

a communications port, said communications port configured to receive said at least one meter input parameter for use by said microprocessor; said microprocessor configured to create a